Application No. 10/538,468 Interview Agenda – Unofficial Submission

Docket No.: 69507(301067)

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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1-11. (Canceled)

- 12. (Currently amended) A method for producing a geogrid, which includes longitudinal fiber-reinforced-polymer strips reinforced with fibers or fiber bundles and lateral fiber-reinforced-polymer strips reinforced with fibers or fiber bundles, that are the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips and the lateral fiber-reinforced polymer strips being interconnected at a plurality of junctions to form a lattice structure, the method comprising:
- _(a) providing longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer-strips-and lateral-fibor-reinforced polymer strips-by-co-extruding a-polymer-resin and a longitudinally elongated-fiber or fiber bundle;
- (a)(b) arranging the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips along imaginary longitudinal lines that are spaced apart from and are in parallel with each other such that one longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strip is arranged in each imaginary longitudinal line; and
- (b) then-bending all of the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips at the same time to form ridges and valleys in turns in each of the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips so that spaces, each of which is closed when viewed in a lateral direction, are formed by at least one of the valleys and at least one of the ridges the valleys and the ridges formed in all of the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips define closed spaces when viewed in a lateral direction;
- (c) inserting the lateral fiber-reinforced polymer strips into the <u>closed</u> spaces at the <u>same time-such that one lateral fiber-reinforced polymer strip is inserted into each closed</u> <u>space</u> to <u>thereby</u> form first contact points at which lower surface portions of the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips are crossed with corresponding upper surface portions of the lateral fiber-reinforced polymer strips and second contact points at which upper surface portions of the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips are crossed with corresponding lower surface portions of the lateral fiber-reinforced polymer strips such that the first and

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second contact points are formed at positions corresponding to the junctions of the lattice structure while not being overlapping; and

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- (d) adhering the longitudinal <u>fiber-reinforced polymer strips</u> and <u>the</u> lateral fiber-reinforced polymer strips to each other at the first and second contact points.
- 20. (Currently amended) A method for producing a geogrid, which includes longitudinal fiber-reinferced-polymer strips reinferced with fibers or fiber bundles and lateral fiber-reinferced-polymer strips reinferced with fibers or fiber bundles, that are the longitudinal fiber-reinferced polymer strips and the lateral fiber-reinferced polymer strips being interconnected at a plurality of junctions to form a lattice structure, by using a device provided with a strip arranging means,

wherein the strip arranging means comprises a an upper plate and a lower plate positioned to face the upper plate,

wherein the upper plate, the lower plate, or both are moveable so that the upper and lower plates can come closer to and get away from each other within a predetermined distance,

wherein a predetermined number of first bending members are formed on the lower surface of the upper plate and a predetermined number of second bending members are formed on the upper surface of the lower plate,

wherein the first bending members and the second bending members are formed along a plurality of <u>imaginary spaced-apart-lateral lines that are spaced apart from and are in parallel with each other and a plurality of <u>imaginary spaced-apart-longitudinal lines that are spaced apart from and are in parallel with each other such that the first and second bending members are formed at positions corresponding to the junctions of the lattice structure while not being overlapping,</u></u>

the method comprising:

_(a) providing longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips and lateral fiber-reinforced polymer strips by co-extruding a polymer resin and a longitudinally-elongated fiber or fibor bundle;

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(a)(b) supplying the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips between the upper and lower plates along the plurality of <u>imaginary spaced apart longitudinal lines</u>;

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(b)(e) moving the upper plate, lower plate, or both to become closer to each other such that all of the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips are pressed by the first and second bending members at the same time, thereby forming valleys in each of the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips at positions where the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips are pressed by the first bending members and ridges in each of the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips at positions where the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips are pressed by the second bending members, thereby forming spaces, each of which is closed when viewed in a lateral direction, by at least one of the valleys and at least one of the ridges whereby the valleys and the ridges formed in all of the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips define closed spaces when viewed in a lateral direction;

(c)(d) inserting the lateral fiber-reinforced polymer strips into the <u>closed</u> spaces at the same time so that such that one lateral fiber-reinforced polymer strip is inserted into each closed space, whereby the lateral fiber-reinforced polymer strips are crossed with the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips at positions corresponding to the junctions of the lattice structure; and

(d)(e) adhering contact points at which the longitudinal fiber-reinforced polymer strips and the lateral fiber-reinforced polymer strips are crossed to each-other at the positions corresponding to the junctions of the lattice structure.

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